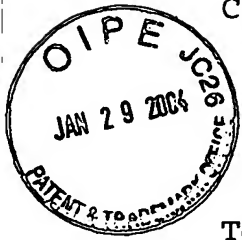


CS-02-080



January 5, 2004

To: Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Fr: George O. Saile, Reg. No. 19,572  
28 Davis Avenue  
Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12603

Subject:

Serial No. 10/690,998 10/22/03

Yeow Kheng Lim et al.

A METHOD TO FABRICATE ALIGNED DUAL  
DAMASCENE OPENINGS

#### INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Enclosed is Form PTO-1449, Information Disclosure Citation  
In An Application.

The following Patents and/or Publications are submitted to  
comply with the duty of disclosure under CFR 1.97-1.99 and  
37 CFR 1.56. Copies of each document is included herewith.

#### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being  
deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class  
mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents,  
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on January 27, 2004.

Stephen B. Ackerman, Reg.# 37761

Signature/Date

SB Ackerman 1/27/04

U.S. Patent 6,380,096 to Hung et al., "In-Situ Integrated Oxide Etch Process Particularly Useful for Copper Dual Damascene," describes a via-first process using an anti-reflective coating (ARC) layer.

U.S. Patent 6,350,675 to Chooi et al., "Integration of Silicon-Rich Material in the Self-Aligned Via Approach of Dual Damascene Interconnects," describes a process for simultaneously etching a via and a trench using silylated photoresist.

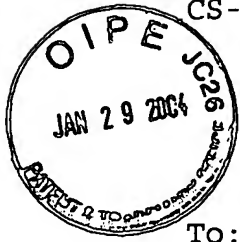
U.S. Patent 6,133,144 to Tsai et al., "Self Aligned Dual Damascene Process and Structure with Low Parasitic Capacitance," describes a self-aligned dual damascene process.

U.S. Patent 6,087,252 to Lu, "Dual Damascene," describes a process of forming a via plug and an interconnect simultaneously.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SBA', with a large circular flourish at the end.

Stephen B. Ackerman,  
Reg. No. 37761



January 5, 2004

To: Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
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| \_\_\_\_\_ |

ASSOCIATE POWER OF ATTORNEY

I hereby appoint Stephen G. Stanton, registration number 35,690, as my associate attorney in this case. His telephone number is (610) 296-5194.

Please continue to direct all correspondence in this case to the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen B. Ackerman,

Principal attorney of record

Form PTO-1449

Doctor Number (Copies)

Afternoon Number

CS-02-080

10/690,998

Loosecan!

Yeow Kheng Lim et al.

Filing Date

10/22/03

Group 11 Unit

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Portion or Pages, Etc.)


EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.